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EDITOR'S PREFACE.

- ----

THE material forming this Viola Primer was found among the papers of the late Mr. Berthold Tours after his death. At the request of the Publishers I have had pleasure in looking over the manuscript and reading the proofs. The Author, with his wonted carefulness, had left his material in a very orderly condition, and my task has consisted of making a few verbal alterations in the text with a view to clearness, and a slight revision here and there of the exercises.

ALFRED GIBSON.

Hampstead,

9 er Reevee

November, 1302.

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THE VIOLA.

PART I.

J.-DESCRIPTION OF THE SEPARATE PARTS OF THE VIOLA.



A, the Head or Scroll. B, the Pegs. C, the Neck. D, the Finger-board. E, the Nut. F, the Bridge. G, the f or sound-holes. H, the Tail-piece. I, the Belly. K, the Ribs. L, the Button. The lower part is called the Back. In the interior of the Viola, for the support of the Bridge and immediately behind its right foot is a small round piece of wood called the *Sound-post*, and under the left feet a piece of wood called the *bar* or *bass bar* is glued on lengthways underneath the Belly.

II.-THE BOW.



A, the Stick. B, the Hair. C, the Nut. D, the Screw. E, the Head, or point.

19 St. Reetes

III.—THE STRINGS.

There are four Strings on the Viola. The two lowest, which are spun with silver or copper wire, are called the C and G, fourth and third respectively; the next is called the D and the A. It will therefore be seen that the strings are tuned in fifths; which is the case with most stringed instruments.



IV.—ON HOLDING THE VIOLA.

The instrument should be placed on the left collar-bone, and in this position it must be held by the chin which rests on the instrument close to the left of the tail-piece, the performer's head being inclined slightly to the left.

Its position must be horizontal, and the neck should be at right angles with the centre of the left shoulder. The elbow should be held immediately under the middle of the instrument, but must not touch the body.

The neck should rest lightly between the third joint of the first finger and the first joint of the thumb, care being taken that it does not sink into the division between the thumb and the first finger.

V.-POSITION OF THE LEFT HAND.

Place the first finger on the first string close to the nut, and the other fingers on the second, third, and fourth strings respectively, in their natural positions, they will then be prepared to produce the following notes :---



The wrist must not be bent, and the palm of the hand should never touch the neck of the instrument. Lift the fingers gently, but keep them over the strings, and the hand will be in the right position.

VI.—ON HOLDING THE BOW.

Place the four fingers of the right hand, as far as the first joint, on the stick, and the thumb, slightly bent, close to the nut, so that the thumb is opposite to the first and second finger. The fingers on the top of the stick should be close to each other, and the hand slightly rounded or arched, so as to rise above the Bow.

VII.—ON BOWING.

The Bow must be placed across the Strings between the finger-board and the bridge, and should be moved at right angles to the instrument. The wrist should be loose and bent towards the face of the player, care being taken not to turn it too much upwards when playing near the nut.

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The above Illustrations are portraits of Mr. ALFRED GIBSON, the Editor of this Primer, specially taken for the book. (Publishers' note.)



VIII.-EXPLANATION OF SIGNS USED FOR BOWING.

down-bow.	WB with the whole bow.
V up-bow.	UH ", " upper half.
P near the point.	LH ,, ,, lower half.
\mathbf{M} near the middle.	firm stroke of the bow.
N near the nut.	 light stroke of the bow.
	 the bow not to leave the string.

IX.—THE ATTITUDE OF THE PERFORMER.

The body should be erect and easy, the chest expanded, and the shoulders drawn back. The player should face the music-desk, standing a little to the left, as otherwise the instrument would hide the music. The principal weight of the body must rest on the left foot, which should point straight towards the desk, the right foot being a little apart from the left, and pointed outwards.



X.-CLEF, LINES, SPACES, AND NOTES.





XI.-DURATION OF NOTES AND RESTS.

TABLE OF NOTES.

is equal to
is equal to
is equal to
is equal to

When two dots are placed after a note, the second dot adds one-half of the value of the previous dot.



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Dots placed after rests lengthen their value in the same proportion.



XII.—TABLE OF TIME SIGNATURES.

	SIMPL	Е.		COMPOUND.
Duple.	C or 2 24 28		6 4 8 6 16	
Triple.	32 34 38		9 4 9 8 9 16	J. J. J. J. J. J. N. J. J.
Quadruple.	¢ or 4 4 4 8		12 4 12 8 12 16	J. J. J. J. J. J. J. J. J. J.

Further and more detailed information respecting these elementary paragraphs (X., XI., and XII.) will be found in the "Rudiments of Music" Primer, by W. H. Cummings.

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In ascending notes the fingers must remain stationary in the order in which they are put down; in descending scales, they are to be lifted one after the other. The fingers should always be pressed firmly on the strings; otherwise a full and clear tone cannot be obtained.









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EXERCISE ON THE FOUR STRINGS.

Draw the bow gently from one string to another, and on no account lift it before proceeding to the next string.



In the preceding Exercises the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd fingers only have been used. By placing the 4th finger next to the 3rd it will be seen that the same note is produced as the next open string—the notes

Control of the second se



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To be played first slowly with WB, afterwards quicker with M.



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A major fifth is played with the same finger on two strings, except when the open string is used. Where minor fifths occur, the signs — or — have been placed; the finger must then move a semitone lower or higher.









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XVI.—SHARPS, FLATS, ETC.

- \ddagger (sharp) raises the note before which it is placed one semitone.
- b (flat) lowers the note before which it is placed one semitone.
- \times (double sharp) raises the note one whole tone.
- bb (double flat) lowers the note one whole tone.
- (natural) restores the note to its normal pitch.

XVII.-MELODIOUS EXERCISES.



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When several notes have to be played in one bow, a sign \frown (called a *slur*) is placed above or below those notes.



















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The entire bow must be used for the crotchet (*) at the 4th beat of the bar, in order to obtain the necessary length of bow for the next dotted minim.





The following Exercise is intended to make the pupil acquainted with different ways of bowing. No. 39. T_{empo} moderato. V



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XIX.-THE DIATONIC SCALES, CONSISTING OF TONES AND SEMITONES.

The teacher must exercise his judgment as to how many of these scales should be learnt by the pupil, but it has been thought advisable to print the whole of them here.

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MINOR (ONE OCTAVE).



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XX.--THE CHROMATIC SCALE, CONSISTING OF SEMITONES ONLY.

In ascending, the fingers must be kept as much as possible on the strings, and they must shift firmly when the same finger is used for two succeeding notes. Generally the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd fingers are used twice, and the 4th finger only once.



When the open strings are used, the 3rd and 4th fingers may be employed, instead of the 3rd finger twice.



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PART II.

XXI.—THE DIFFERENT GRADATIONS OF TONE.

in.
i

The various shades of tone are produced by the degree of pressure which is given to the bow. When playing *piano* the bow must be drawn a little nearer the fingerboard; when *forte* nearer the bridge, and the first finger and thumb must press the bow more firmly. The *crescendo* is best produced by moving the bow gradually quicker and with increasing pressure over the strings. The *decrescendo* is produced in exactly the opposite way. The following Exercises give an opportunity of studying the various gradations of tone. They must be practised very slowly, and with the full length of the bow.

Exercise 43 should be practised thus :---



Exercise to produce a crescendo and decrescendo :---





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At the crotchet rest the bow must be moved upwards, to enable the student to recommence with a down-bow.









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XXIV,-EXERCISES IN EXPRESSION, STYLE, &c.

EXERCISE IN TRIPLETS.

Triplet is the name given to a group of three notes, which are performed in the time of two. The triplet is generally indicated by a small slur and the figure 3.



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During the rest let the bow remain firmly on the string so that the semiquaver can be produced with the same amount of tone as the preceding quaver.

















When several down-bows occur in succession, the bow must be moved upwards during each rest, so as to be in its position again for the next note.











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The bars marked 1^{ma} volta (1st time) are to be played only once, being replaced by those marked 2^{da} volta (2nd time) when the section is repeated.

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PART III.

XXV.-DIFFERENT WAYS OF BOWING.

THE LEGATO.

Legato (bound together, connected). The bow must pass evenly and smoothly from one string to another with a free action of the wrist only, and the notes should be played equally, without being hurried.





XXVI.--THE MARTELÉ (HAMMERED).

This bowing consists of sharp decided strokes with the upper part of the bow, and after every note the **bow** must rest for an instant on the string.



XXVII.-THE SAUTILLÉ (Springing Bow).

Use the middle of the bow, keeping the wrist as loose as possible, and let the stick vibrate strongly. The bow must not leave the string entirely. This bowing should be practised first on the open strings only.



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XXVIII.—THE STACCATO.

The Staccato consists of short and detached notes in one bow.

It must be practised slowly, with a loose wrist and steady arm. It is generally played with the up-bow near the point, but it can also be performed with the down-bow near the nut, which is, however, the more difficult way.









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XXIX.-THE TREMOLO.

The *tremolo* is played about the middle of the bow, the notes being repeated with great rapidity, so as to produce a shivering effect. The arm must be kept steady and the wrist free. The notation for the *tremolo* is usually abbreviated thus:—















The bow must remain with equal pressure on both strings, and the points of the fingers should be carefully placed on the stopped notes, in order to avoid touching the next strings.

DOUBLE-STOPS WITH ONE OPEN STRING AND ONE NOTE STOPPED :---



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XXXI.—ARPEGGIO.

Arpeggio is the term used for playing the notes of a chord one after another in rapid succession, as in playing upon the harp. The middle of the bow is generally used, and the stick must be placed in such a position that all the hairs touch the strings. The body should remain perfectly quiet, and the management of the bow must proceed only from the wrist and arm.



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XXXII.--PIZZICATO.

Instead of using the bow, the string is pulled with the first finger of the right hand, the thumb being placed against the fingerboard for support. Care must be taken not to touch the string with the finger nail.

EXPLANATION OF TERMS.

Pizz. pizzicato. *Arco*, or *coll' arco* . . again with the bow.









APPENDIX.

XXXIII.—THE HIGHER POSITIONS.

In all the foregoing Exercises the highest note used has been

The Viola has, however, a compass of notes still higher than this E.

In the higher positions it will be found necessary to indicate on which string the note has to be played. The following numbers will therefore be used :—

> I. . . A string. II. . . D ,, III. . . G ,, IV. . . C ,,

XXXIV.—THIRD POSITION.

In the third position the hand is placed a third higher than in the first, and the palm of the hand now touches the hollow of the neck.



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F

G

















EXERCISE IN WHICH THE FIRST AND THIRD POSITIONS ARE COMBINED :--











Е

XXXV.-FOURTH POSITION.

The hand must now be raised a little more than before over the edge of the belly, to enable the fingers to reach the fourth string.

















XXXVII.--EXERCISES IN OCTAVES.

The difficulty in playing Octave passages is to produce the octaves in tune; as with each new stop the position of the hand changes, and on approaching the bridge the distance between the first and fourth fingers gets gradually less. These two fingers must be pressed firmly on the strings, and moved together from one octave to another without lifting them. A free action of the wrist is necessary to move the bow from one string to another.



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A SHORT

VOCABULARY

OF

TECHNICAL TERMS AND EXPRESSIONS.

The following abbreviations are used: Fr. (French), Ger. (German), It. (Italian), Lat. (Latin).

A capriccio (It.) At will; according to individual fancy. Cadenza (It.) A brilliant passage introduced towards the close of Accelerando (It.) Gradually increasing the speed of the movement. a movement. Adagio (It.) Slower than Andante. A slow movement. Calando (It.) Gradually softer and slower. Adagio assai) (It.) Very slow. Calmato (It.) With a calm, tranquil expression. Cantabile (It.) In a singing style. Ad libitum (Lat.) At will; not in strict time. Cantilena (It.) A melody. Affettuoso (It.) Lovingly. Capriccio (It.) A composition irregular in form. Agitato (It.) With agitation. Cavatina (It.) A melody in simple form. Alla breve (It.) A direction that there should be two beats Chaconne (Fr.) A slow dance movement in triple rhythm, in a bar, one to each minim; it is indicated by the generally combined with variations, Chevalet (Fr.) The bridge. time-signature (c) or $\frac{2}{2}$ Coda (It.) In the nature of a peroration. - marcia (It.) In the style of a march. Colla parte (It.) Following the principal part. ---- polacca (It.) In the style of a polonaise. Colophane (Fr.) Colophonium (Lat.) Resin. - tedesca (It.) In the style of a German waltz. Allegretto (It.) Lively, but slower than Allegro. Comodo (It.) Easy, without haste. Allegro (It.) Joyfully, quick, lively. Concertino (It.) A short concerto. Allegro con brio. (It.) Quick and brilliant. Concerto (It.) A composition in which a solo instrument takes a prominent part, generally with orchestral accompaniment. Courante (Fr.) An old dance movement in triple rhythm. ----- ma non troppo (It.) Lively, but not too fast. Crescendo (It.) Increasing the force of tone. ----- moderato. (It.) Moderately quick. ---- molto (It.) Very quick. Da capo (It.) Repeat from the beginning. ----- vivace (It.) Quick and lively. al fine (It.) Repeat from the beginning to the sign Fine. Allemande (Fr.) A German dance movement in quadruple rhythm. - al segno (It.) Repeat from the sign S Al segno (It.) To the sign, S Decreasendo (It.) Decreasing in tone. Andante (It.) A slow, peaceful, but not dragging movement. Deciso (It.) With decision. ---- cantabile (It.) Slow, in a singing style. Delicatezza, con (It.) With delicacy. - grazioso (It.) Slow and graceful. Diminuendo (It.) Diminishing in tone. --- maestoso (It.) Slow, with majesty. Dolce (It.) Softly, sweetly. - ma non troppo (It.) Slow, but not too much so. Dolcezza, con (It.) With softness and sweetness. Andantino (It.) Somewhat quicker than Andante. Dolore, con (It.) In a plaintive, sorrowful style. Animato (It.) With animation. Doloroso (It.) Sadly. A piacere (It.) At pleasure. Double (Fr.) An old term for a variation. Appassionato (It.) With passion and intense expression. Duet. A composition for two voices or instruments. Arco (It.) The bow; coll'arco, with the bow. Arpeggio (It.) The notes of a chord sounded consecutively, not Eleganza, con (It.) With elegance of style. simultaneously. (See page 53.) Elégie (Fr.) A composition of a mournful character. Assai (It.) Very. (See Adagio assai.) Energico (It.) With energy. A tempo (It.) In time. Generally used after Ritardando or Espressione, con(It.)) With expression. Accelerando. Espressivo (It.)) Commence the succeeding movement at once, Attacca (It.)Facilité (Fr.) An easy version of a difficult passage. Attacca subito (It.) without any pause. Fermata (It.) A pause. Fermo (It.) With firmness. Bourrée (Fr.) A French dance in common time, beginning at the Fieramente (It.) Boldly, fiercely. fourth beat of the bar. Finale (*It.*) The last movement of a composition. Fine (*It.*) The end. Brillante (It., Fr.) In a brilliant manner. Brio, con (It.) With spirit and vigour.

Forzando, Sforzando (It.) (Abbreviation, sf or fz.) Strongly marked or accented. Frosch (Ger.) The nut of the bow; Am Frosch, near the nut. Fuoco, con (It.) With fire and spirit. Furioso (It.) With fury. Gavotte (Fr.) A dance movement in common time, beginning at the half bar. Geige (Ger.) A violin. Giga (It.) A jig; a lively dance movement in compound duple Gigue (Fr.) ∫ rhythm. Grandioso (It.) With grandeur. Grave (It.) Slow and solemn. Grazioso (It.) With grace and elegance. Imitando (It.) Imitating. (Imitando la voce, imitating the voice part.) Impetuoso (It.) Impetuously. Indeciso (It.) In an undecided manner. Lamentando (It.) Mournfully, plaintively. Langsam (Ger.) Slowly. Larghetto (It.) At a slow pace, but not so slow as Largo. Largo (It.) Very slow, and broadly. Lebhaft (Ger.) With vivacity. Legato (It.) Connected; bound together. (See page 43) Leggieramento (It.) Lightly, gracefully. Leggiero (It.) Light, easy. Lentando (It.) Becoming slower by degrees. Lento (It.) Slow. Lunga pausa (It.) A long pause. Maestoso (It.) With majesty, dignity. Maggiore (It.) The major key. Marcato (It.) Marked. Martelé (Fr.) Hammered (See page 45.) Meno (It.) Less ; as, meno mosso, less quick. Mineur (Fr.) The minor key. Minore (It.) Minuetto (It.) A graceful dance movement in triple rhythm. (See page 52.) Moderato (It.) At a moderate speed. Molto (It.) Much, very; as, molto allegro, very quick; molto sostenuto, much sustained. Morendo (It.) Dying away, diminishing in speed and tone. Mosso (It.) Moved; as, più mosso, faster. Moto, con (It.) Rather fast and spirited. Passionato Passione, con $\{(It.)$ In an impassioned manner. **Pastorale** (It.) In a pastoral style. Pausa (It.) A rest, a pause. Pausa generale (It.) Also G.P. A pause for all the performers. Perdendosi (It.) Decreasing in speed and tone. **Pesante** (It.) Impressively, heavily. Piacevole (It.) In a playful style. Pizzicato (It.) (See page 57.) Poco (It.) A little; poco animato, rather animated. Poco a poco (It.) Little by little. Ponticello (It.) Sul ponticello, near the bridge. Poussé (Fr.) Up-bow. Preludium (Lat.) } A prelude, or introduction. Preludio (It.) Prestissimo (It.) Very fast. Presto (It.) Fast. Prima vista (It.) At first sight.

Forza, con (It.) With force.

Quartett (Ger.) Quatuor (Fr.) A composition for four voices or instruments. $\begin{array}{c} \mathbf{Q}_{uintett} & (Ger.) \\ \mathbf{Q}_{uintuor} & (Fr.) \end{array} \right\} \mathbf{A} \text{ composition for five voices or instruments.}$ Rallentando (It.) Getting gradually slower. Rapidamente (It.) With rapidity. Recitando (It.) In the manner of a Recitative. Religioso (It.) In a religious devotional manner. Ripieno (It.) A part in an orchestral composition which is only occasionally required for the purpose of adding to the force of a Tutti. Risoluto (It.) With resolution. Ritardando (1t.) Gradually diminishing the speed of a move-Ritenuto ∫ ment. Sarabanda (It.) A slow and dignified old dance movement in triple rhythm. Sautillé (Fr.) Springing bow. (See page 46.) Scherzando $\{(It.)$ In a playful humorous manner. Schnell (Ger.) Quick. Sec (Fr.) Dry; indicates a short quick bow. Segue (It.) Follows; comes after. Semplice (It.) In a simple unaffected manner. Sempre (It.) Always. Senza (It.) Without; as, Senza Sordini, without mutes. Septetto (It.)Septuor (Fr.) A composition for seven voices or instruments Sextett (Ger.) A composition for six voices or instruments. Simile (It.) In the same manner. Smorzando (It.) Dying away. Solo (It.) Alone. Sonore (Fr.) Sonorous, with full and rich tone. Sordini, con (It.) With mutes. Sostenuto (It.) Sustained. Staccato (It.) Detached; taken off. (See page 48.) Stringendo (It.) An acceleration of speed. Tacet (Lat.) Silence. Tastiera (It.) Sulla tastiera-over the finger-board. Teneramente (It.)Tenerezza, con (It.) Tenderly, delicately.

Teneramente (II.)
Tenderly, delicately.
Tenuto or Ten. (It.) Sustained, held.
Tiré (Fr.) Down-bow.
Tranquillo (It.) Tranquilly, calmly.
Tremolo (It.) A note bowed with great rapidity in order to produce a quivering effect. (See page 49.)
Trille (Fr.)
Trillo (It.) The Shake.
Trito (It.) A composition for three voices or instruments.
Tutta forza, con (It.) With the greatest force.
Tutti (It.) All. Every performer to take part.
Una corda (It.) On one string.
Variazioni (It.) Variations.
Vigoroso (It.) Vigorously, boldly.

Vivace (It.) Vigorously, bondy. Vivace (It.) Lively, quickly. Vivo (It.) Animated, brisk. Volti subito, or V.S. (It.) Turn over the page quickly.

Wolf. Some particular note, of which the intonation is not true

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